

Photo Story 3

Step by Step Instructions

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Getting Started — Tips and Considerations

- You must have Windows XP or better to use Photo Story
- Download and install Photo Story 3
- Update your Windows Media Player if still using an old version
- Assemble all your pictures in one folder to make them easy to locate when working on your project
- Pictures can be jpeg, png, or gif and should be at least 640x480. Photo Story is intended to be used with digital photos... you can use clipart, but they look kind of funky, so stick to photos
- Photo Story has built-in music, but you can also import song files from a CD... however, Photo Story will not read directly off the CD (see page on music for instructions on how to convert files using iTunes)
- You will save your work in two formats: as a project that can be edited again and again, and as a video to be viewed and shared
- Title slides and text only slides are best created in PowerPoint and saved as jpeg images (see video instructions)

For Photo Story video instructions and resources

Go to <http://blackboard.resa.net> (no WWW in that address)

Click on the Open Courses tab

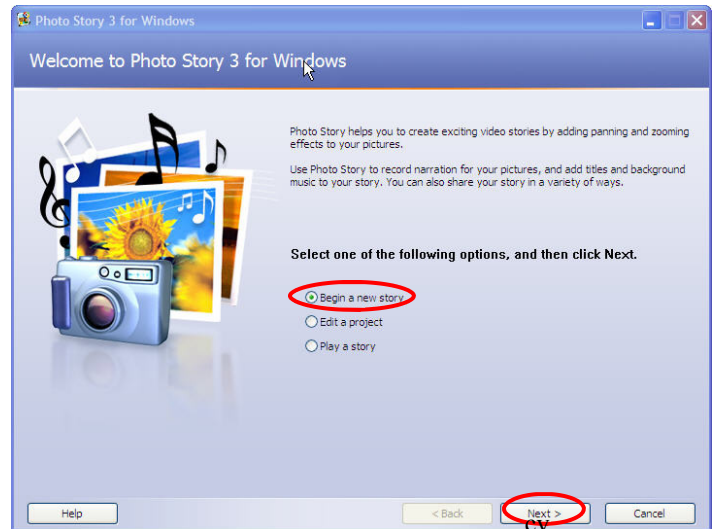
Under "Educator Resources" click Photo Story

Use the green buttons on the left to navigate to materials

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Begin New Story

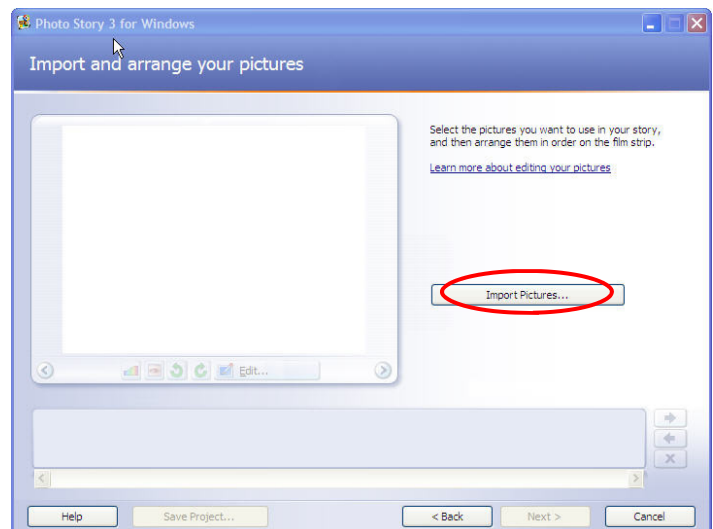
- Open Photo Story 3
- Select “Begin a new story”
- Click NEXT



Import Pictures

- Click “Import Pictures”
- Select the pictures you want to use

TIP: **ctrl+click** — hold ctrl and click multiple pictures to import many at one time



- You can import picture multiple times
- Find pictures in different folders by navigating to those folders on the left
- Slide to change the size of the photos
 - + get a good look at the photo
 - to select multiple photos

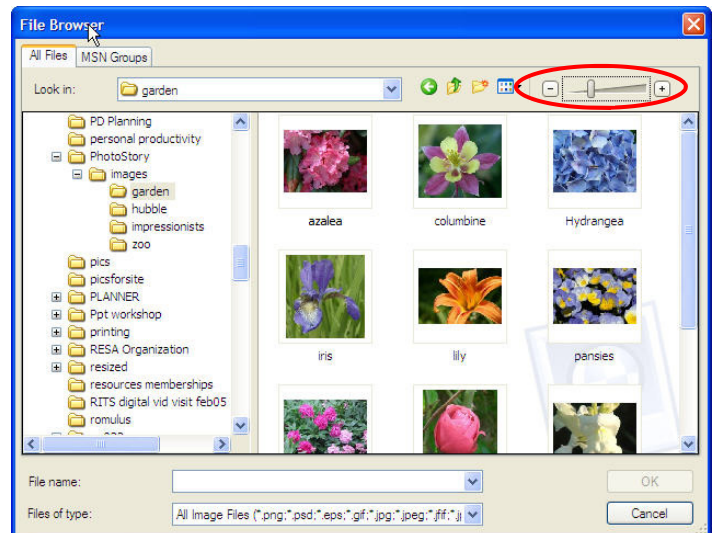
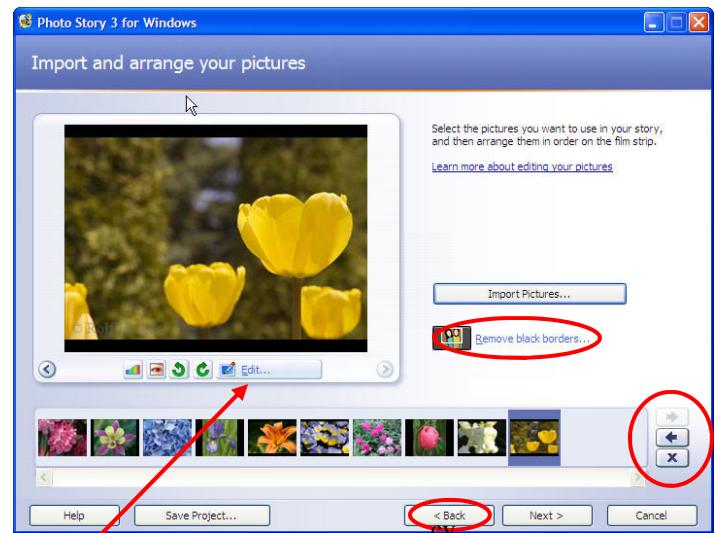


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Ordering Pictures

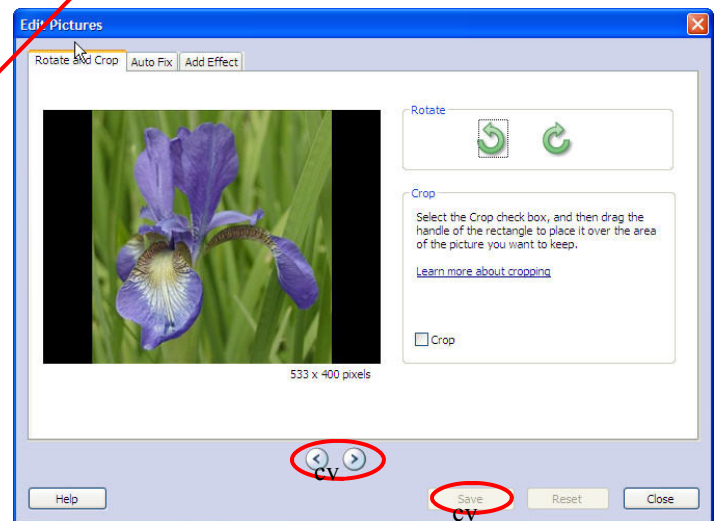
- Click the picture then click the arrows to move it in the timeline (or just click and drag)
- Click the picture then click the X to remove it from the timeline
- Click “Back” to go back a step and import more pictures
- If the pictures are not the right size, Photo Story will add black borders to them. Click “Remove black borders” to have the pictures automatically edited—but be careful, this isn’t always necessary and sometimes the pictures are not edited correctly—you can also do this yourself by cropping the picture in the Editing options



Editing Pictures

- Make small adjustments to your pictures by clicking the “Edit” link under the picture preview
- Edit your picture using the features in the three editing tabs: Rotate and Crop, Auto Fix, and Add Effect
- After editing, click Save... then click the small arrow to advance to the next picture, or click Close

TIP: **ctrl+click** — hold ctrl and click multiple pictures to import many at one time



Titles

- Add titles to your pictures by typing in the text box, then formatting using the alignment and font buttons

TIP: Do not add lots of text and be sure to use a contrasting color... add page breaks to align your text differently

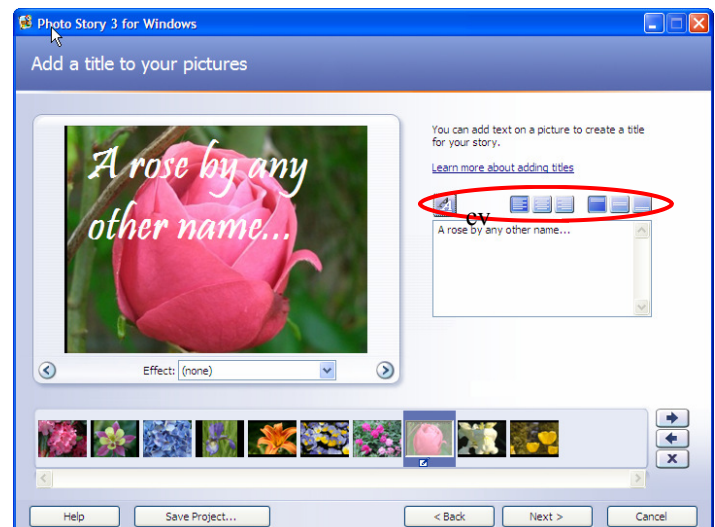
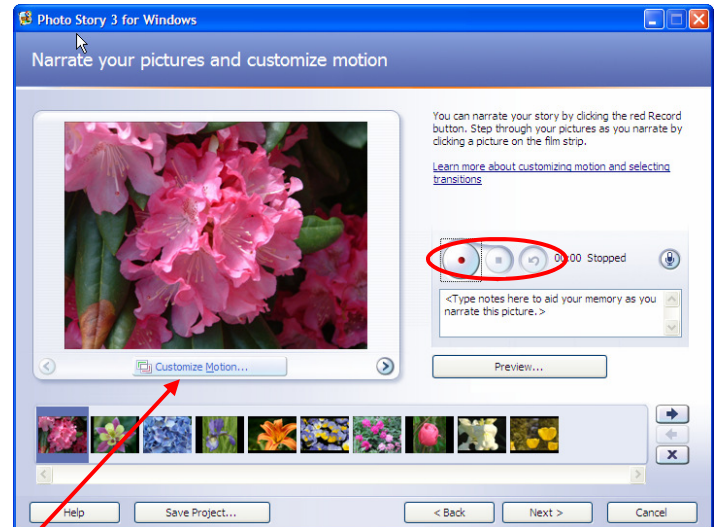


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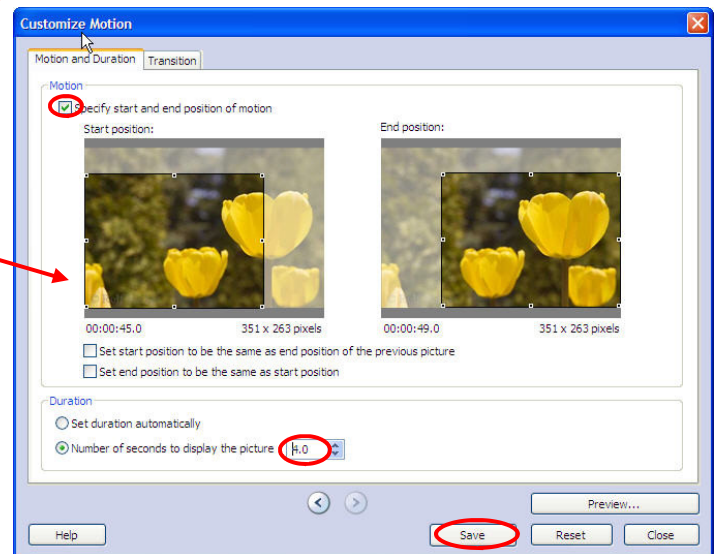
Narration

- Add voice narration to any picture by clicking the button with the red circle to record, click the button with the black box to stop, and click the button with the flipped arrow to delete
- TIP: A mic on a stand works better than a headset or one you pin to your clothing
- Repeat narration process for each picture



Customizing Motion

- Adjust the default motion by clicking Customize Motion...
- Click the “Specify start and end position...” option
- Resize and move the square boxes to the desired position
- Change the duration, if needed (in seconds)
- Click Save, then use the arrow to advance to the next slide, or click Close



Transitions

- Click the Transition tab
- Select the transition you want and adjust the timing
- Click Save

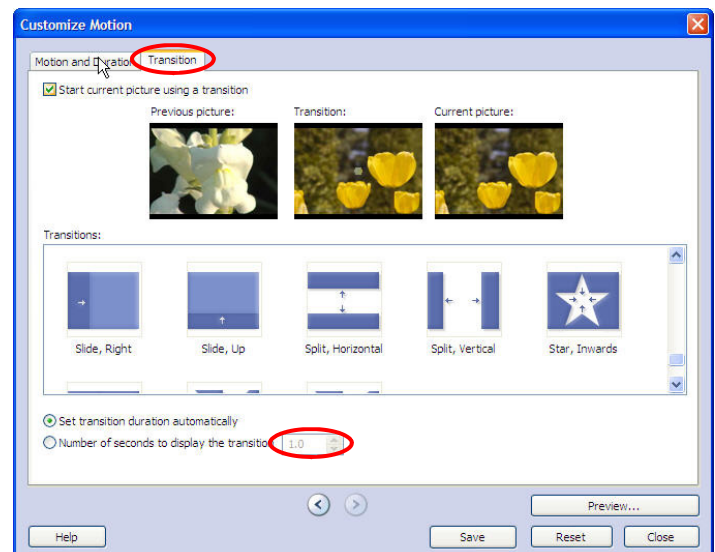
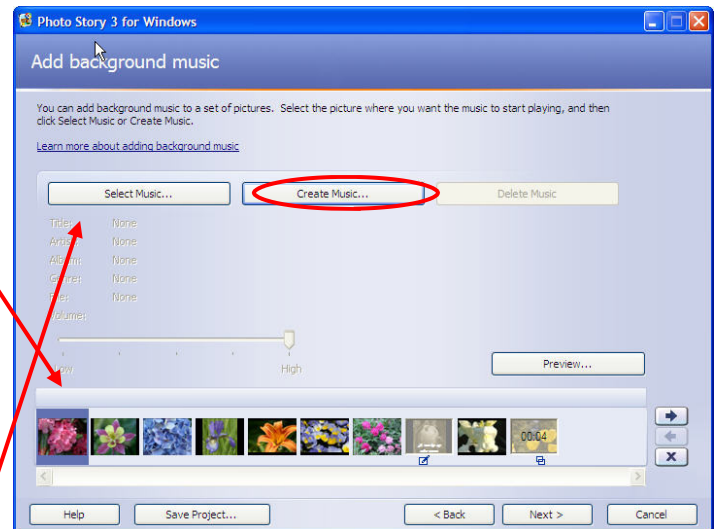


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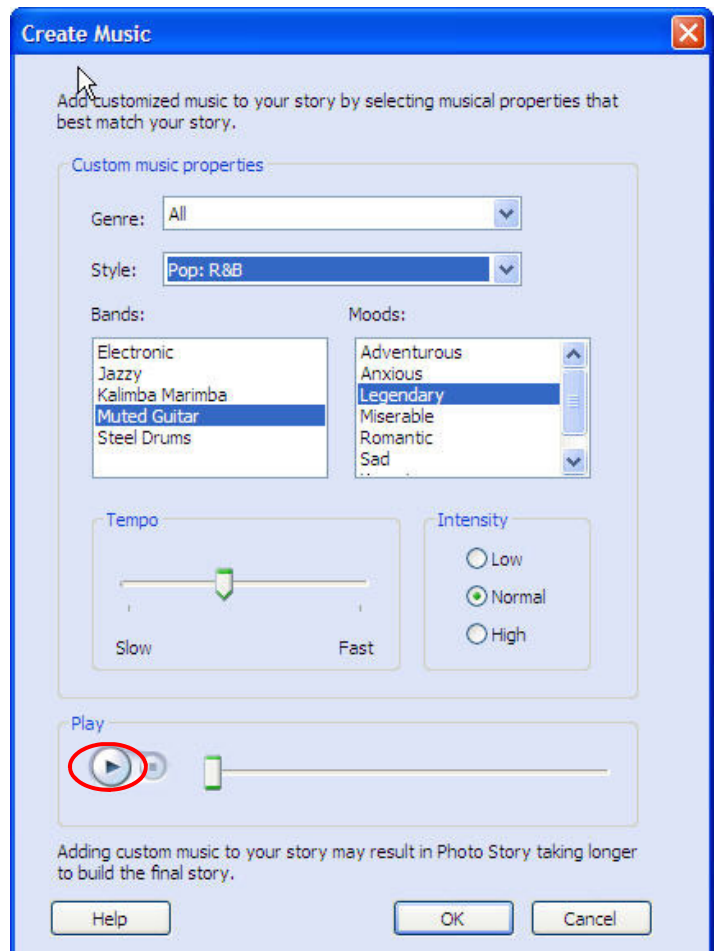
Music—Built In

- Click on the picture where you want the music to begin playing
- Click the Create Music button
- In the Create Music window, select a Style, then click the Play button
- Then change the “Bands” and “Moods” to hear the song in different keys and instruments
- Change tempo as desired
- Click OK
- Various music loops can be added to one Photo Story project... click the next picture where you want new music to begin playing and repeat process



Music—Importing

- Import music from a CD by clicking the Select Music button and finding the file.... but first you must convert the file to an MP3. iTunes is the easiest way to do that:
 - Download and open iTunes (it's free)
 - From the Edit menu, select preferences
 - Click the Advanced tab, then Importing tab
 - Change Import Using to “MP3 encoder”
 - Click OK
 - Put in your CD and view the songs in iTunes
 - Right-click on the song you want and select “Convert Selection to MP3”
 - Select “Music” on the left side
 - Right-click on the imported song and choose “Show song file” or “Get info”
 - Note where the file is located so you'll know where to find it when back in Photo Story

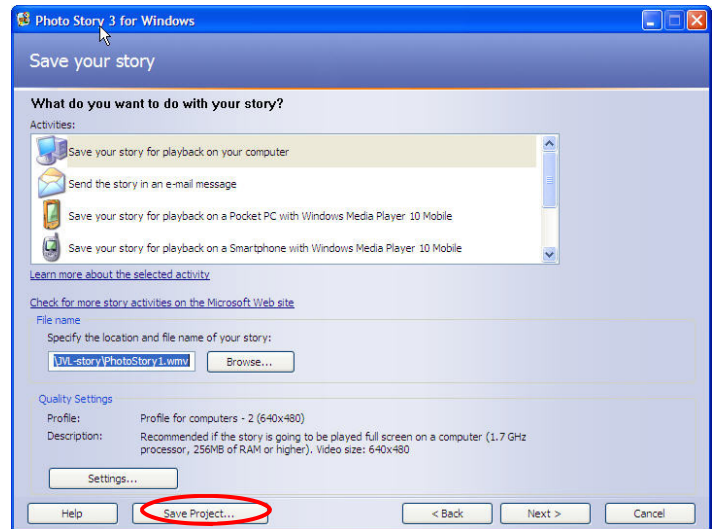


TIP: If you have voice narration, be sure to turn your music file volume at almost the lowest setting, if no narration, keep it all the way up

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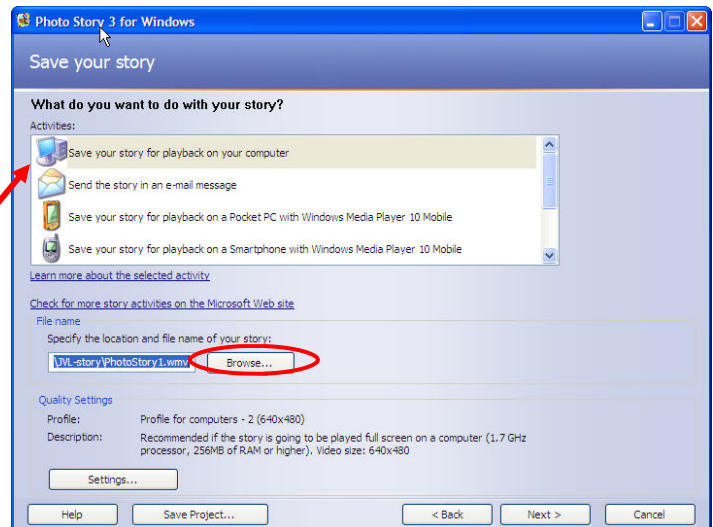
Saving Your Project

- Save your Photo Story project so that you can come back to it and make changes at any time
- Click the Save Project button, select a location, name the file, and click OK
- DO NOT CLICK NEXT YET...



Rendering a Video

- Next, render your project into a video. Click the Browse button to select a location and file name for your video
- For most cases, you will want to keep the “Save your story for playback on your computer” option selected... there are a few other options (like playback on a portable device)
- Click Next and Photo Story will begin rendering your video... get up and do something else while it works, do not check email or use other programs as this could impact the quality of your video



Finished!

- Exit Photo Story and double-click your video to watch it
- Remember, you can re-open your project file any time to make changes and render a new video as necessary... your project file ends with a .wp3 extension and your video will end in a .wmv (and plays in Windows Media Player)

